

HOUSE BILL 2726

By Stewart

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
Chapter 17, Part 4, relative to possession of
marijuana by combat-wounded veterans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-418(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) It is an offense for a person to knowingly possess or casually exchange a controlled substance, unless:

(1) The substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of professional practice; or

(2) The substance is marijuana, and the person possessing the marijuana is a veteran of the United States armed forces who has been awarded the Purple Heart and retains proof of:

(A) The person's certificate of release or discharge from active duty, department of defense form 214 (DD 214), indicating that the person has been awarded the Purple Heart; and

(B) A legal order or recommendation from a licensed doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathic medicine that states that the person is likely to receive therapeutic or palliative benefit from the medical use of marijuana;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.